

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 745 - SB 1135

March 21, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DLWD), in coordination with the Department of Education (DOE), to develop and Administer the Tennessee Work Ready Opportunity Program (T-WROP). Such program will assess and certify adult displaced workers' and students' career readiness using nationally recognized assessments. Requires that such assessments be available in print and electronic formats and be available to adult displaced workers and high school students.

Requires LEAs and public charter schools to provide each student the opportunity to take the ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) examinations through the T-WROP.

Requires the DLWD to allocate funding to administer the T-WROP, provide job-profiling training and services to employers, and conduct a virtual training program for communities on participation in the T-WROP. Subject to appropriation, the DOE is required to allocate funding for high school students to take assessments through the T-WROP.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$3,306,100/FY21-22
\$3,016,900/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005574): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Establishes that each student shall have the opportunity to take nationally recognized assessments which assess and certify students' career readiness as a strategy for providing students more choice in choosing a career pathway.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$1,584,000/FY21-22 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- This legislation will result in an increase in expenditures for the DOE to provide nationally recognized assessments which assess and clarify students' career readiness.
- Such test is assumed to be the ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) examination.
- The annual cost to provide NCRC tests per year for approximately 72,000 students, at \$22 per test, will result in an increase in state expenditures of \$1,584,000 (72,000 x \$22).
- An increase in state expenditures in FY21-22 and subsequent years of \$1,584,000.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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